

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
ABIDJAN BUREAU

MAB 3014
3 August 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Abidjan Bureau - July 1983

I. GENERAL

Ambassador Nancy V. Rawls announced this month that she is retiring. Her replacement will be Robert H. Miller, chief of management operations in the office of the undersecretary for management, Department of State. Ambassador Miller was formerly ambassador to Malaysia. Ambassador Rawls visited the bureau on August 3rd to say goodbye to the bureau personnel. She will be leaving on the 11th to retire in Westport, Connecticut.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The renewal of fighting in Chad was the bureau's major story of the month, with reports from AFP, Africa No. 1, which carried occasional reports from a correspondent in Ndjamen, and Radio Bardai, the voice of the anti-Habre forces. The latter has produced much unique material, requiring considerable work because of extremely poor reception which was made worse toward the end of the month by apparent efforts to jam the station. On the 4th, the bureau remained open until 0200 processing a communique by Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) saying that because of French and U. S. assistance to Habre, GUNT "finds itself obliged to call on its friends" -- especially Libya -- for aid as well as a four-take Goukouni interview at Faya-Largeau, scene of the heaviest fighting. The following day, a two-take interview with the GUNT foreign minister was processed from Bardai and on the 8th, Goukouni gave a statement denying foreign troops were aiding his forces but claiming he was assured of "active" support by his friends "if the need arises." On the 10th, the GUNT chief of staff admitted receiving "logistic support" from Libya and AFP reported on the 12th that Zaire had sent troops to bolster Habre when GUNT forces were subsequently driven out of Abeche in a battle in which Libyans were reported to have been captured. Bardai Radio charged that other "foreign troops" had also been fighting with the FAN "disguised as Zairians." After the strategically important town of Faya-Largeau fell on the 31st, Bardai specified that the mercenaries were from the U. S., France, Sudan, Egypt and Morocco.

During the month, nearly 15,000 words were filed from Bardai Radio. The American Embassy in Ndjamen emphasized the importance of this reporting by asking FBIS to continue filing items on Chad to them despite the minimize imposed on its communications. "These items -- particularly from Libya and Radio Bardai -- are invaluable," the embassy advised. ✓

2. As noted above, there has been an apparent effort to jam Radio Bardai, with some success. On the 22nd, AFP reported that the radio was being jammed and MOD queried the bureau for confirmation. Although reception is normally poor, making it difficult to distinguish between normal and deliberate interference, it does appear that some jamming is taking place. A humming noise with a tonal sound superimposed drowns out portions and sometimes the entire newscast. After the French cast goes off at 1900 amt, the sound stops and the repeat cast in the vernacular which follows is heard with much better reception. The jamming, if that is what it is, has been only partially successful. With effort, the bureau has been able to process a number of items anyway, and AFP reports suggest that they have been able to monitor the radio from either Niamey or Lome.

3. The bureau responded to a request this month from AG for background material on Bardai Radio and the Voice of the Upper Voltan Revolution. Available current information was provided for Bardai Radio, including some from knowledgeable local sources, and a few program summaries were provided for the VUVR. The latter is carried on the same frequency as Bardai Radio and follows the same general pattern of alternating slogans with music, although it has not been heard to carry a "news" program as Bardai normally does. VUVR supports deposed Prime Minister Thomas Sankara and is critical of current Upper Voltan President Ouedraogo, although it is much less vehement in its denunciation than Bardai is with respect to Habre. Reception has been so poor that the bureau has been able to monitor only a few casts. ✓

4. The final stages of the Nigerian election campaign has also kept the bureau busy. On the 21st, another monitor was added to the evening shift to help process an interview by President Shagari as well as to assist with Radio Bardai items. Even so, the bureau did not close until 0300 in order to clear the four-take interview. On the 28th, Shagari gave a five-take address which kept the bureau open until 0145. Part of the problem is that Shagari is a native Hausa speaker, his English is difficult to follow and he tends to swallow his words. Also, reception of Lagos Radio at night is often poor. Chief Monitor [redacted] was highly complimentary of the junior monitor's performance in processing these items advising that among the monitors at Kaduna Bureau, only he was able to handle speeches by native Hausa speakers. In addition, a number of items were filed on instances of violence in the country accompanying the campaign, mostly from the Nigerian News Agency (NAN) as the radio was less forthright in this regard.

STAT

B. Technical

Engineer [redacted] created a new monitoring position in the main monitoring room using equipment from the old, infrequently used cruising position. He also installed a light over the editorial desk to be used during power failures, placed new security lights on the roof, and reworked the ground lights so they would not short-circuit during a rainstorm.

STAT

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. [] a Beninois who had been teaching English in the Ivory Coast, entered on duty on the 15th to fill a new monitorial position.

STAT

2. Monitor [] who transferred to Abidjan from Mbabane last March, was promoted to full monitor, FSN 10/2, on the 24th. Monitor [] received a QSI on the 10th for his outstanding performance in training monitors for Swaziland Bureau. Monitor [] and Teletypist [] received PSI's on the 24th, to FSN 10/5 and FSN 6/4 respectively.

STAT

STAT

STAT

STAT

3. Monitor [] was selected for the headquarters visitation program on the 18th. He is the first nominee from an African Bureau since [] attended ten years ago, but we are confident he will not be the last.

STAT

STAT

B. Building and Grounds

The bureau landlord had a crew begin work repairing damage to the tile over the garage area as well as a leak discovered during the past rainy season. The bureau roof and walls in that area are being resealed and tiles are being replaced. We do not know how long the work will take but the cost is being borne entirely by the owner and bureau operations are not affected.

IV. VISITS

Doug Harwood, new JAO, and John Mack, new administrative officer, toured the bureau on the 19th.

V. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Editor [] married for the second time in front of a group of new embassy friends and bureau personnel on the lawn of the Ivoire Hotel with the lagoon and the skyline of Abidjan in the background. Dr. James Canaday, a minister of the local interdenominational Christian group, performed the ceremony. [] had already been married by telephone on June 24th, overcoming many hurdles, including the Abidjan phone system. Bureau phones were malfunctioning on the appointed day and would not ring on this end. At the prearranged time, [] picked up the phone without the benefit of a ring to find his bride ready for the vows. After the ceremony in Abidjan the group adjourned to [] and [] apartment for champagne, a buffet, and a cake baked by [] and both decorated and cut by none other than the engineer himself, proving that technical skill can be useful in many ways.

STAT

STAT

STAT

STAT

STAT

STAT

STAT

[]
Acting Chief, Abidjan

Attachment:

Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Swaziland Bureau

Deputy Chief, London Bureau

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE MORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	188,110
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE MORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	5,050
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	594

II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	7,424	30,360	115
--------------------------------	-------	--------	-----

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:

ANGON DE

LUANDA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
ENGLISH 85A

LUANDA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
FRENCH 4,180

LUANDA ANGOP IN
FRENCH 1,110

LUANDA ANGOP IN
PORTUGUESE

RESULTS

COTONOU DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
FRENCH 470

COTONOU EHUZU IN FRENCH 680

CAMEROON

YAOUNDE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
ENGLISH 910

YAOUNDE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
FRENCH 1,349

CONGO

BRAZZAVILLE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN
FRENCH 5,860

CAPE VERDE

PRIMA POUZI IN PORTUGUESE

0505

BARDAI CHADIAN NATIONAL RADIO (ANTI-HABRE)	14,688
---	--------

FRANC

PARIS AFP IN ENGLISH	32,610
----------------------	--------

PARIS AFP IN FRENCH 21,420

PARIS DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	2,120
---------------------------------------	-------

PARIS DIPLOMATIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH	1,840
--	-------

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
GABON			
LIBREVILLE DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH			
LIBREVILLE AFRICA NO.1 IN FRENCH	3,888		
LIBREVILLE L'UNION IN FRENCH			
GAMBIA			
BANJUL GAMBIA NEWS BULLETIN IN ENGLISH			
GHANA			
ACCRA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH	12,598		
ACCRA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH			
ACCRA GHANAIAN TIMES IN ENGLISH			
ACCRA DAILY GRAPHIC IN ENGLISH			
ACCRA WEEKLY SPECTATOR IN ENGLISH			
GUINEA BISSAU			
BISSAU NO PINTCHA IN PORTUGUESE			
GUINEA			
CONAKRY DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	1,498		
CONAKRY HOROYA IN FRENCH			
IVORY COAST			
ABIDJAN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	3,588		
ABIDJAN FRATERNITE MATIN IN FRENCH			1,528
ABIDJAN INFORMATION IN FRENCH		478	
LIBERIA			
MONROVIA RADIO ELWA IN ENGLISH	4,748		
MONROVIA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH	1,148		
MONROVIA EXPRESS IN ENGLISH			
MONROVIA LIBERIAN INAUGURAL IN ENGLISH			
MONROVIA NEW LIBERIAN IN ENGLISH			
MONROVIA THE SUND PEOPLE IN ENGLISH			
MALI			
BAMAKO DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	758		
BAMAKO L'ESSOR IN FRENCH			
MAURITANIA			
NOUAKCHOTT DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	5,788		
NOUAKCHOTT CHAAB IN FRENCH			

...../3

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
NIGER			
NIAHEY DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	770		
NIAHEY LE SAHEL IN FRENCH			
NIAHEY SAHEL HEBDO IN FRENCH			
NIGERIA			
LAGOS DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH	11,740		
LAGOS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH	3,970		
KADUNA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH	490		
NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) IN ENGLISH	9,220		
SENEGAL			
DAKAR DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	6,890		
DAKAR LE SOLEIL IN FRENCH			
SIERRA LEONE			
FREETOWN DOMESTIC SERVICE IN ENGLISH	1,550		
FREETOWN DAILY MAIL IN ENGLISH			
TOGO			
LOME DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	6,190		
TOGO NOUVELLE MARCHE IN FRENCH			
UPPER VOLTA			
OUAGADOUGOU DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	1,660		
OUAGADOUGOU L'OBSERVATEUR IN FRENCH			
ZAIRE			
KINSHASA DOMESTIC SERVICE IN FRENCH	6,900		
KINSHASA AZAP IN FRENCH		1,030	
KINSHASA ELIMA IN FRENCH			
LUBUMBASHI NJUMBE IN FRENCH			